

## Message Text

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45

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEAE-00 IO-11 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01

/076 W

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O R 261056Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6875

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USUN NEW YORK 853

UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 1013

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, BG, SW

SUBJECT: DEFECTION OF BANGLADESH AMBASSADOR ABDUR RAZZAK

REF: DACCA 2610

1. SUMMARY. BENGALI AMBASSADOR ABDUR RAZZAK HELD PRESS-TV CONFERENCE IN STOCKHOLM FEBRUARY 25 TO ANNOUNCE AND EXPLAIN HIS DEFECTION. MAIN ARGUMENT WAS THAT CURRENT REGIME BETRAYS REVOLUTION BY RESTORING PRE-1972 PERSONALITIES TO AUTHORITY AND PROPERTY, AGREEING TO COMPENSATE PAKISTANI OWNERS FOR NATIONALIZED PROPERTY, CREATING "CLASS SOCIETY INCOMPATIBLE WITH SOCIAL JUSTICE," ALL IN NAME OF "ELITIST EFFICIENCY." RAZZAK STUDIED IN US (FLETCHER) AND HAS SWEDISH WIFE. SEVERAL OF HIS REMARKS HAVE SUBTLE ANTI-US FLAVOR.

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END SUMMARY.

2. DEFECTION. FOLLOWING POINTS MADE TO PRESS BY BENGALI  
AMBASSADOR ABDUR RAZZAK:

-- ACTIONS TAKEN BY PRESIDENT ABU SADAT MOHAMMAD SAYEM  
AND GENERAL ZIAUR RAHMAN SINCE NOVEMBER 1975 INCLUDE  
REHABILITATION OF "AT LEAST THREE POLITICAL FIGURES  
WHO SERVED UNDER AYUB KHAN";

-- MUJIBUR RAHMAN WAS NOT KILLED BY "THE PEOPLE."  
EVIDENCE THAT COUP AGAINST HIM WAS DIRECTED FROM  
ABROAD MUST BE, SEEN AGAINST BACKGROUND FACT THAT  
HIS KILLER SOUGHT ASYLUM IN PAKISTAN OR US (AND NOW  
SITS UNPUNISHED IN LIBYA);

-- THE WORLD BANK IS NOW INCREASING  
ITS ACTIVITY IN BANGLADESH WHILE MUJIBUR, "AS  
WAS CASE ALSO IN CHILE", COULD NOT GET WORLD BANK  
HELP;

-- BOTH POPULACE AND ARMY ARE NOW SPLIT IN BANGLADESH.

3. BIOGRAPHY. PRESS NOTES RAZZAK'S EARLIER SERVICE AS  
PAKISTANI DIPLOMAT IN STOCKHOLM AND HIS DEFECTION IN VIENNA IN  
1968. RAZZAK IS DESCRIBED AS HAVING BEEN HANDPICKED AS  
AMBASSADOR TO SWEDEN BY MUJIBUR RAHMAN IN 1972.

4. LIND. RAZZAK WAS JOINED IN HIS DEFECTION BY WELL-KNOWN  
SWEDISH ARTIST (SPECIALIST IN SEA SCENES) AXEL LIND, WHO WAS  
HONORARY BENGALI CONSUL GENERAL IN GOTHENBURG.

5. PRESS TREATMENT. PRESS AND TV TO DATE HAVE REPEATED  
RAZZAK UTTERANCES WITHOUT COMMENT OR ANALYSIS. DAGENS  
NYHETER, USUALLY PROMPT TO ECHO ANTI-US THEMES, PUBLISHED  
APPARENTLY STRAIGHTFORWARD ACCOUNT OF EVENTS IN BANGLADESH  
SINCE 1970. BACKGROUNDER CLAIMS RAHMAN LEFT BANGLADESH WITH  
INDUSTRIAL CAPACITY LOWER THAN 1970 LEVEL, JUTE EXPORTS AT FORTY  
PERCENT OF CAPACITY, RISING PRICES DOUBLED MANY TIMES OVER,  
AND 25,000 POLITICAL OPPONENTS KILLED. SINCE 1975 COUPS,  
NEW REGIME "CLEANING UP AFTER MUJIBUR'S MISMANAGEMENT" HOPES  
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TO ALLOW POLITICAL ACTIVITY AFTER AUGUST 1976 IN ANTICIPATION OF  
GENERAL ELECTION IN FEBRUARY 1977, FIGHTS AGAINST CORRUPTION  
"WITHOUT KID GLOVES" AND SEEKS TO MAKE ADMINISTRATION  
FUNCTION BETTER.  
STRAUSZ-HUPE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION, PRESS CONFERENCES, POLITICAL DEFECTORS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 26 FEB 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 DACCA 2610  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** castelsl  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 15 JUL 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <15 JUL 2004 by schwenja>; APPROVED <02 SEP 2004 by castelsl>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DEFECTION OF BANGLADESH AMBASSADOR ABDUR RAZZAK  
**TAGS:** PFOR, BG, SW, (RAZZAK, ABDUR)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006